



Summer Meals Newsletter

DECEMBER 2016 • STATE AGENCIES

IT'S COLD OUTSIDE...
BUT NEXT YEAR'S PLANS ARE HEATING UP!

Upcoming USDA and Partner Events

December 1, 1:00 PM EST |
Food Policy Councils and the
Summer Nutrition Programs
(Summer Meals Matter Monthly
Training Series) | Food Research
and Action Center (FRAC)

2017 Anti-Hunger Policy Conference: Register Now!

Registration is open for the [2017 National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference](#), taking place March 5-7, 2017 in Washington, DC!

Co-sponsored by FRAC and Feeding America, the National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference brings together anti-hunger leaders from community organizations, advocacy groups, and state, local, and Federal government.

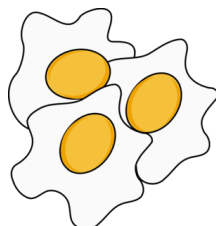
The three-day conference includes networking opportunities, interactive trainings, and content-rich sessions.

What's New Fall Policy Release

In early December, USDA FNS will release its annual collection of policy guidance related to the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Topics include meal disallowances, area eligibility, the Seamless Summer Option (SSO), and much more. An updated Q&A memo will also be released. Check the FNS SFSP website for these new and updated policy memos.



Summer Spotlight: Increasing Summer Breakfast Participation



FRAC's [*Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation: Summer Breakfast Status Report*](#) "measures July 2015 summer breakfast participation against July 2015 summer lunch participation, nationally and in each state. The findings show that only 1.7 million low-income children received summer breakfast on an average weekday in July 2015—barely half as many who ate summer lunch."

The report includes best practices for summer sponsors to increase summer breakfast participation in their summer food service. We've pulled some suggestions from the report for State agencies to work with sponsors to promote summer breakfast in their summer meal plans.

Serve Breakfast on the Weekends

Serving breakfast, in addition to lunch, all seven days of the week gives an additional opportunity for sponsors to meet children's nutritional needs. Plus, community organizations often hold programming on the weekends, making it easier to bring children out to those sites.

Promote Breakfast in All Your Communications

Make sure that whenever you're promoting summer meals, you're promoting summer breakfast too. This simple move helps raise awareness, so that when people think of "summer meals," they don't just think of lunch, but breakfast too!

Include Activities

Activities are a great incentive that attracts children to summer sites! Check out the Summer Meals, Summer Moves toolkit for fun activities for the children at your State's sites next summer.

Read the full report, which includes important data on summer breakfast participation, [here](#).